

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for blocking at least one outgoing call
2 communication from a calling party to a called line selected by a ~~the~~ calling party, said
3 calling party having a calling line identification number, said method comprising:

4 receiving ~~an the outgoing communication directed to a called line from a calling~~
5 ~~line~~, said calling line associated with a subscriber to an outgoing call blocking service;

6 obtaining a calling line identification number for said ~~communication~~ call;

7 obtaining a called line identification number for said ~~communication~~ call;

8 activating the outgoing call blocking service at a first pre-set time;

9 de-activating the outgoing call blocking service at a second pre-set time;

10 looking for said calling line identification number in a data store to determine data
11 associated with said calling line identification number concerning calls from the calling
12 line to a called line which are to be blocked; ~~and~~

13 terminating the call if the data indicates that the call is to be blocked;

14 ~~overriding the outgoing call blocking service for at least a second single outgoing~~
15 communication from the calling line by entering an override code.

16 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising completing the call if
17 the data associated with the calling line identification number does not indicate that calls
18 to the called line are to be blocked.

19 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising completing the call if
20 the called line identification number indicates that the called line is an emergency call
21 line.

22 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
23 blocked comprises a list of area codes to which calls are to be blocked.

1 **5.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
2 blocked comprises a list of at least one of a plurality of called line identification numbers
3 of calls which are to be blocked.

4 **6.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
5 blocked comprises all calls.

6 **7.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
7 blocked comprises all long distance calls.

8 **8.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
9 blocked comprises all calls except calls to one of a plurality of specified called line
10 identification numbers.

11 **9.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
12 blocked comprises all calls except calls to one of a plurality of specified area codes.

13 **10.** (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said data concerning calls to be
14 blocked comprises all calls except local calls.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A method of activating an outgoing call blocking
2 service, comprising:

3 receiving from a calling line at a central office associated with the calling line a
4 predetermined access code to an outgoing call blocking service;

5 prompting a ~~caller~~subscriber to the outgoing call blocking service to provide data
6 concerning outgoing calls to be blocked;

7 receiving the provided data;

8 storing said data in a data store associated with the call blocking service; ~~and~~

9 activating the outgoing call blocking service at one of a pre-set time and a pre-set
10 day;

11 enabling the subscriber to prohibit outgoing long-distance calls from being placed
12 from the calling line;

13 enabling the subscriber to prohibit outgoing calls to at least one specified area
14 code;

15 enabling the subscriber to prohibit outgoing calls to at least one specified
16 telephone number;

17 enabling the subscriber to prohibit special feature calls from being placed from the
18 calling line;

19 enabling the subscriber to allow outgoing calls only to at least one specified local
20 telephone number; and

21 enabling the subscriber to allow outgoing calls only to at least one specified
22 telephone number.

1 **12.** (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
2 prompting the caller for an authorization code; and
3 comparing the received authorization code with a stored authorization code for the
4 calling line identification number.

5 **13.** (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising activating the
6 service if the received authorization code corresponds to the stored authorization code for
7 the calling line identification number.

8 **14.** (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising not activating the
9 service if the received authorization code does not correspond to the stored authorization
10 code for the calling line identification number.

11 **15.** (Cancel).

12 **16.** (Cancel).

13 **17.** (Cancel).

14 **18.** (Cancel).

15 **19.** (Cancel).

16 **20.** (Cancel).

17 **21.** (Cancel).

1 **22.** (Currently Amended) A system for blocking a call between a calling line
2 and a called line within a telecommunications network, comprising:

3 a service switching point office for receiving an out-going call request from the
4 calling line to a called line;

5 a storage device for storing data concerning outgoing calls to be blocked, and
6 further for storing at least one pre-set time period over which the a outgoing call blocking
7 service is to be activated or de-activated, the time period being defined by at least one
8 pre-set time or at least one pre-set day; ~~and~~

9 a controller for determining if data concerning a call to the called line corresponds
10 to data concerning calls to be blocked; and

11 a services circuit node adapted to enable a subscriber to the outgoing call blocking
12 service to:

13 prohibit outgoing long-distance calls from being placed from the calling
14 line;

15 prohibit outgoing calls to at least one specified area code;

16 prohibit outgoing calls to at least one specified telephone number;

17 prohibit special feature calls from being placed from the calling line;

18 allow outgoing calls only to at least one specified local telephone number;

19 and

20 allow outgoing calls only to at least one specified telephone number.

21 **23.** (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the controller terminates the
22 call if data concerning a call to the called line corresponds to data concerning calls to be
23 blocked.

1 **24.** (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the controller completes the call
2 if data concerning a call to the called line does not correspond to data concerning calls to
3 be blocked.